APPENDIX I:

THE LISTING OF CLAIMS (version with markings, showing the changes made):

1. (*original*) A bipolar plate for PEM fuel cells made of a polymer blend which is filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers and which includes at least two mutually nonmiscible blend polymers, wherein at least two blend polymers form a co-continuous structure and the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration in one of the blend polymers or in the phase between the blend polymers, or wherein a blend polymer in which the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration forms a continuously conductive matrix in which at least one further blend polymer is intercalated.

2. (*currently amended*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbon fillers are selected from conductive black, graphite, carbon fibers, carbon nanotubes [~~or~~] and mixtures thereof.

3. (*currently amended*) The [~~method~~] bipolar plate as claimed in claim 1 [~~or 2~~], wherein the polymer blend comprises from 25 to 95 wt% of blend polymers and from 5 to 75 wt% of carbon fillers.

4. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the polymer blend contains as carbon fillers

   from 1 to 30 wt% of conductive black,

   from 5 to 60 wt% of carbon fibers, and

   from 0 to 25 wt% of carbon nanotubes,

   the total amount of carbon fillers being from 6 to 70 wt%, in each case based on the total weight of the polymer blend.

5. (*currently amended*) A bipolar plate as claimed in [~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~] claim 1, wherein the blend polymers have different polarities and the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration in the more polar blend polymer.

6. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 5, wherein the polymer blend includes at least one polyamide and at least one polyether ketone or polyether sulfone as blend polymers.

7. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 6, wherein the weight ratio, in the polymer blend, of polyamide to polyether ketone/polyether sulfone is from 1:8 to 8:1.

8. (*currently amended*) A method of fabricating bipolar plates as claimed in [~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~] claim 1 by preparing and shaping the polymer blend filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers.

9. (*currently amended*) A PEM fuel cell comprising bipolar plates as claimed in [~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~] claim 1.

10. (*canceled*)

11. (*currently amended*) A polymer blend as defined in [~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~] claim 1, filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers and having a co-continuous structure.

APPENDIX II:

THE AMENDED CLAIMS (clean version of *all* claims):

1. (*original*) A bipolar plate for PEM fuel cells made of a polymer blend which is filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers and which includes at least two mutually nonmiscible blend polymers, wherein at least two blend polymers form a co-continuous structure and the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration in one of the blend polymers or in the phase between the blend polymers, or wherein a blend polymer in which the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration forms a continuously conductive matrix in which at least one further blend polymer is intercalated.

2. (*currently amended*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbon fillers are selected from conductive black, graphite, carbon fibers, carbon nanotubes and mixtures thereof.

3. (*currently amended*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer blend comprises from 25 to 95 wt% of blend polymers and from 5 to 75 wt% of carbon fillers.

4. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the polymer blend contains as carbon fillers

   from 1 to 30 wt% of conductive black,

   from 5 to 60 wt% of carbon fibers, and

   from 0 to 25 wt% of carbon nanotubes,

   the total amount of carbon fillers being from 6 to 70 wt%, in each case based on the total weight of the polymer blend.

5. (*currently amended*) A bipolar plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blend polymers have different polarities and the carbon fillers are at a higher concentration in the more polar blend polymer.

6. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 5, wherein the polymer blend includes at least one polyamide and at least one polyether ketone or polyether sulfone as blend polymers.

7. (*original*) The bipolar plate as claimed in claim 6, wherein the weight ratio, in the polymer blend, of polyamide to polyether ketone/polyether sulfone is from 1:8 to 8:1.

8. (*currently amended*) A method of fabricating bipolar plates as claimed in claim 1 by preparing and shaping the polymer blend filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers.

9. (*currently amended*) A PEM fuel cell comprising bipolar plates as claimed in claim 1.

10. (*canceled*)

11. (*currently amended*) A polymer blend as defined in claim 1, filled with conductivity-enhancing carbon fillers and having a co-continuous structure.